

# Annual Internal Audit Report 2024/25

ANCASTER PARISH COUNCIL - L10009

<https://ancaster.parish.lincolnshire.gov.uk>

During the financial year ended 31 March 2025, this authority's internal auditor acting independently and on the basis of an assessment of risk, carried out a selective assessment of compliance with the relevant procedures and controls in operation and obtained appropriate evidence from the authority.

The internal audit for 2024/25 has been carried out in accordance with this authority's needs and planned coverage. On the basis of the findings in the areas examined, the internal audit conclusions are summarised in this table. Set out below are the objectives of internal control and alongside are the internal audit conclusions on whether, in all significant respects, the control objectives were being achieved throughout the financial year to a standard adequate to meet the needs of this authority.

Internal control objective	Yes	No*	Not covered**
A. Appropriate accounting records have been properly kept throughout the financial year.	✓		
B. This authority complied with its financial regulations, payments were supported by invoices, all expenditure was approved and VAT was appropriately accounted for.	✓		
C. This authority assessed the significant risks to achieving its objectives and reviewed the adequacy of arrangements to manage these.	✓		
D. The precept or rates requirement resulted from an adequate budgetary process; progress against the budget was regularly monitored; and reserves were appropriate.	✓		
E. Expected income was fully received, based on correct prices, properly recorded and promptly banked; and VAT was appropriately accounted for.	✓		
F. Petty cash payments were properly supported by receipts, all petty cash expenditure was approved and VAT appropriately accounted for.			✓
G. Salaries to employees and allowances to members were paid in accordance with this authority's approvals, and PAYE and NI requirements were properly applied.	✓		
H. Asset and investments registers were complete and accurate and properly maintained.	✓		
I. Periodic bank account reconciliations were properly carried out during the year.	✓		
J. Accounting statements prepared during the year were prepared on the correct accounting basis (receipts and payments or income and expenditure), agreed to the cash book, supported by an adequate audit trail from underlying records and where appropriate debtors and creditors were properly recorded.	✓		
K. If the authority certified itself as exempt from a limited assurance review in 2023/24, it met the exemption criteria and correctly declared itself exempt. (If the authority had a limited assurance review of its 2023/24 AGAR tick "not covered")	✓		
L. The authority published the required information on a website/webpage up to date at the time of the internal audit in accordance with the relevant legislation.	✓		
M. In the year covered by this AGAR, the authority correctly provided for a period for the exercise of public rights as required by the Accounts and Audit Regulations (during the 2024-25 AGAR period, were public rights in relation to the 2023-24 AGAR evidenced by a notice on the website and/or authority approved minutes confirming the dates set).	✓		
N. The authority has complied with the publication requirements for 2023/24 AGAR (see AGAR Page 1 Guidance Notes).	✓		
O. (For local councils only) Trust funds (including charitable) – The council met its responsibilities as a trustee.	Yes	No	Not applicable
			✓

For any other risk areas identified by this authority adequate controls existed (list any other risk areas on separate sheets if needed).

Date(s) internal audit undertaken

Name of person who carried out the internal audit

23 04 2025 24 04 2025

HAZEL HILL

Signature of person who carried out the internal audit

REDACTED

Date

24 04 2025

\*If the response is 'no' please state the implications and action being taken to address any weakness in control identified (add separate sheets if needed).

\*\*Note: If the response is 'not covered' please state when the most recent internal audit work was done in this area and when it is next planned; or, if coverage is not required, the annual internal audit report must explain why not (add separate sheets if needed).



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24 April 2025

The Chair  
Ancaster Parish Council

Dear Sirs,

Internal Audit Report Year ending 31 March 2025 – Ancaster Parish Council

I have examined council business including policies, financial statements, and documents relevant to this audit.

I have no issues to report, but I have discussed the following suggestions with the Clerk.

**Standing Orders** – new Model (2025) Standing Orders are now available. The Clerk intends to have these ready for adoption at the May meeting.

**Policies in General** – The Clerk has agreed to check if any currently on the website have been updated and if so, will amend accordingly.

**Policy Suggestions** - The following need to be adopted by the Parish Council Data Breach Policy, Subject Access Request Procedure and Record Retention Policy. The Clerk intends to have these ready for adoption at the May meeting.

**Finance** – Although expenditure is detailed in the minutes of the meetings, income is not. The Clerk has agreed to put the monthly income figure in the minutes in future.

The Parish Hall account has quite a lot of money in it. I did suggest looking for a higher interest rate, but she informs me that the money may be needed towards the Annexe Project, so we decided to leave it in the account for the time being.

I have signed the Annual Internal Report.

Yours faithfully,

Hazel Hill